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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Bläse et al.
Serial No.: 09/819,574
For: MEMBRANE MODULE
Filed: March 28, 2001
Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
Art Unit: 1724
Attorney Docket No.: 608.0008USU

1724
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FEB 15 2002
TC 1700

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL FORM

Transmitted herewith is a Supplemental Preliminary Amendment for the above-identified application.

The fee for any change in number of claims has been calculated as shown below.

CLAIMS AS AMENDED						
	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest Number Previously Paid	Present Extra	Rate	
Total Claims	11	Minus	11	0	x \$18.00	\$0
Independent Claims	2	Minus	2	0	x \$84.00	\$0
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM FEE				x \$280.00 = \$		
TOTAL FEE FOR CLAIM CHANGES				\$0		

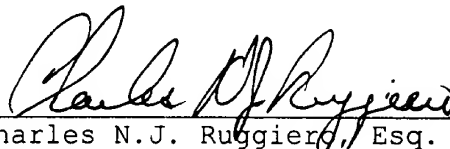
The total fee for this amendment, including claim changes and any extension of time is calculated to be \$ 0.

 A check in the amount of \$ 0 is attached.

X The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 and 1.17 which may be required with this communication or during the entire pendency of the application, or credit any overpayment, to **Deposit Account No. 01-0467**. A duplicate copy of this Form is enclosed.

January 24, 2002

Date



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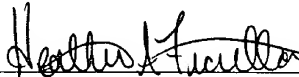
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, ON January 24, 2002.

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SIGNATURE

January 24, 2002

DATE



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SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above identified patent application as follows:

In The Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

10. (Amended) A process for the production of a membrane module for filtering a medium, the membrane module having at least one ceramic filter element with rod ends that are clamped by covers that are perpendicular to the at least one element, the membrane module having seals provided between the rod ends and openings in the covers, the process comprising:

forming a blank seal by making an inner opening of a seal to a finished size for enclosing one of the rod ends, while an outer surface of the seal remains unprocessed;